Youthful Recreations.

Price Six-pence.

FROM

HARRIS'S

JUVENILE LIBRARY,

AT

THE CORNER

OF

St. Paul's Church-Yard,

LONDON.

Ex Libris

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
LOS ANGELES

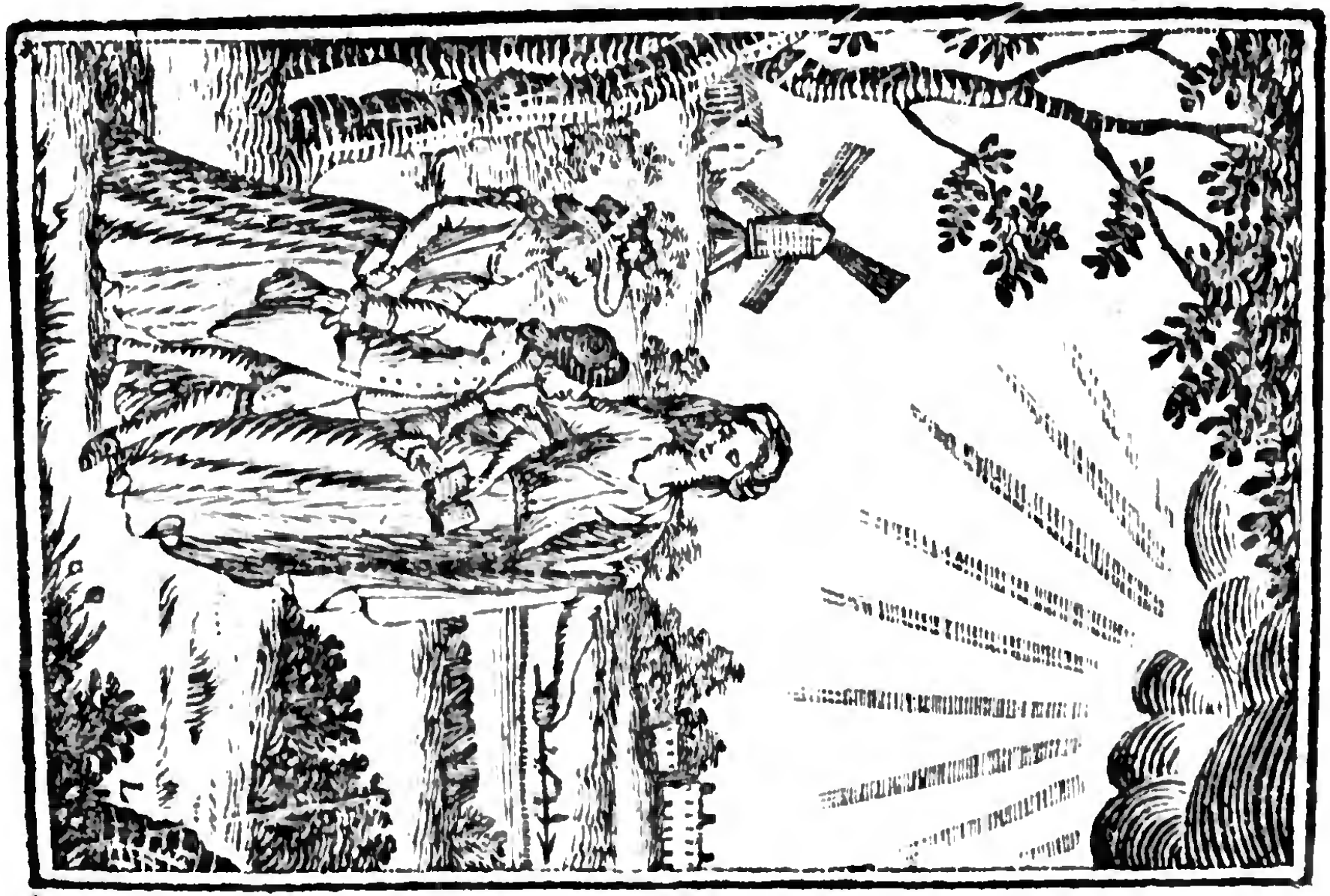
The Olive Percival
Collection of
Children's Books

CHILDREN'S BOOK
COLLECTION

LIBRARY OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
LOS ANGELES

H. L. Bowles

1809.



YOUTHFUL

RECREATIONS,

CONTAINING

AMUSEMENTS OF A DAY,

AS SPENT

By Maſter FREELOVE and his Companions.

INTERSPERSED WITH

STORIES, SUITABLE OBSERVATIONS, VERSES,

AND OTHER MATTERS OF

INSTRUCTION AND ENTERTAINMENT.

LONDON:

Printed for J. HARRIS, Succeſſor to E. NEWBERY, at the Corner of St. Paul's Church-yard;

By J. CROWDER and E. HEMSTED, Warwick-ſquare.

(Price Six Pence.)

INTRODUCTION.

SOME wiſe men have obſerved, that people were often beſt judged by their *Amuſements*;—if this is the caſe with regard to grown perſons, there is no doubt but the ſame holds good as to children. From their behaviour, when left moſt to their own will, it is natural to ſuppoſe, that we may form in a great meaſure an idea of their diſpoſition, and gueſs at the turn they are likely to take in future life. Small matters will mark characters, eſpecially when the perſons are under ſcarcely any reſtraint, ſo that by theſe little things, according to the old

Proverb, we may be enabled to conceive, what a great deal means.

The following pages are deſigned to exhibit a ſeries of adventures, containing indeed nothing very ſurpriſing, but ſuch as might well happen to a few young folks going abroad on a party of pleaſure, in which the tempers of the little travellers are diſplayed, with ſome natural reflections, and a ſtory as well as a few verſes now and then interſperſed, for inſtruction and entertainment.—If any thing more appears in the book, it is preſumed it will be found conſiſtent with the plan, and ſo far fulfil the intention of

THE AUTHOR.

YOUTHFUL RECREATIONS.

MASTER Frank Freelove was the only Child of a Gentleman that formerly was concerned in a whole-ſale trade, but had left off for ſome time, and lived upon the fortune he had got in buſineſs.

This young Gentleman had loſt his Mother when he was but an infant, and his good Papa was ſo

careful of his education, that he was the leſs ſenſible of his loſs, otherwiſe the want of a mother's tenderneſs he muſt have felt, as my young readers will readily imagine.

Mr. Freelove was happy to find that his care was not likely to be thrown away, as Frank ſhewed an inclination to learning, had a good genius, and what crowned all, he was obedient to his Parent, and good-natured and obliging to every body.

He had every proper indulgence at ſeaſonable times, becauſe he behaved in ſuch a manner as to de-

ſerve

ſerve ſuch favours. Among the reſt, beſides the delight he took in reading books that were both amuſing and inſtructive, he uſed frequently to take a walk abroad with two or three companions of the ſame diſpoſitions, when they enjoyed not only the pleaſures of air and exerciſe, but alſo made remarks on all that they found worthy of notice in theſe agreeable journeys, which greatly added to their entertainment.

It was in the Whitſun Holidays, in the pleaſant month of June, that Frank and his young friends made

one

one of theſe excurſions, having the leave of their Parents to go into the country, where George Graceful had an Aunt at ſome few miles diſtance from London, who was fond of little folks, and had a ſon of eighteen years old, as ſteady and ſenſible as he was known to be civil and obliging.

Beſides the two young Gentlemen that we have already mentioned ſet out from Mr. Freelove's after an early breakfaſt, there were in company Maſter Tommy Thoughtful, Maſter Billy Briſk, Maſter Harry Hearty, and Miſs Patty Pleaſant, all of whom

were

were very willing to be agreeable to each other, and were moſt friendly to Maſter Freelove, who acted as their leader on ſuch occaſions.

At this time they ſet out on a very clear morning, when George Graceful firſt broke ſilence, by obſerving on the fineneſs of the weather. "It is happy, indeed," ſaid Miſs Pleaſant, "that we are likely to "have ſuch nice holidays: that is "not always the caſe."—"No," (anſwered Frank) "and as I have "often heard, it is not fit that it "ſhould be ſo."—"And why not?" cried

cried Billy Briſk; "why ſhould not "people have their pleaſures? that "would be beſt."—"I cannot ſay "ſo," replied George, "becauſe I do "not know whether we can judge "what is beſt: I am ſure my elders "have told me ſo."—

"Pray," ſaid Frank, "what do you "call fine weather?"—Maſter Billy replied, "that he meant ſunſhine, "to be ſure."—"I do not think that "would do always," replied our little hero, "for I really fancy, if that was "the caſe, we ſhould have no cakes, "and what is worſe, no bread to eat."

Harry

Harry Hearty then obſerved, "that "he thought the ſunſhine produced "every thing."—"But not without "rain," returned Frank. "And "now you ſee what is before us!" Juſt then they came to a field of corn. "Let us go over the ſtile," adds he, "and aſk thoſe honeſt men, you ſee "there mowing the graſs, what they "think of the matter."—"How "ſhould they be judges," ſaid Billy Briſk, "ſuch ignorant people as they "are?" But Frank told him, "not "to be ſo ready in deſpiſing any "body; and as for theſe labourers,"

he

he properly obſerved, " that though " they were not expected to be bleſſed " with learning, it was likely they " knew ſomething of what they got " their living by."—This they all owned to be true.

Therefore

Therefore they ſtepped over into the field, and began talking with the mowers. One of them, who ſeemed to be a ſenſible and good-natured man, very readily anſwered ſuch queſtions as were put to him. With regard to the ſunſhine, though one of the greateſt bleſſings that God beſtows on us, he obſerved, that rain was equally neceſſary to fill the fruits and corn, and to bring up the greens and flowers, as well as the graſs which he was then cutting down.—"This," ſaid he, "you muſt know, young gen-"tlemen, is to be made hay, which

"feeds

" feeds the horſes for people to ride,
" and is uſeful for all cattle. This
" very graſs, without which you
" could neither have milk nor meat,
" muſt be dryed up without rain.
" Even froſt and ſnow are alſo ne-
" ceſſary: the froſt kills the inſects
" and vermin of the earth; and the
" ſnow, though you feel it ſo cold,
" keeps the ground warm by not
" letting the ſharp air too much in
" upon what has not yet ſprung up:
" and thus all theſe different weathers,
" as we know that labour in the
" field, are neceſſary in their proper
" ſeaſon." " Now,"

"Now," cried Maſter Freelove, "I hope you are convinced that we "ſhould have neither flour nor milk; "no cakes, nor even bread nor meat, "if we had all ſunſhine;—and which "of you would wiſh always for what "we call fine weather, if that were "to be the caſe."—

They all allowed that this would be both fooliſh and wrong. Indeed I hope my young readers are of the ſame opinion. It muſt ſurely be only want of thought that can occaſion them ever to find fault with the weather, juſt becauſe it may now

and then disappoint them of a little pleasure. God only knows what is best, and he orders things every where accordingly. I shall here relate a short story to this purpose, if the reader will attend to it, while the young folks proceed on their journey.

There lived in one of the southern counties of England a miller, whose mill went by wind, and who was remarkably greedy, wishing none to thrive but himself. The different situations of many of his neighbours made calm weather frequently agreeable.

But

" But what is that," ſaid he, " to a " windmill? What ſhall I do with- " out briſk gales?—I wiſh it may " blow hard continually!" When he was told to conſider thoſe that lived around him, he would wickedly ſay, " I have nothing to do with " them; my care is for myſelf, and " I ſhall never trouble my head any " further,——*While the wind blows,* " *and while the mill goes, I muſt be* " *happy.*"

The miller had a ſon whom he had ſent abroad in early youth, and continually received news of his ſucceſs

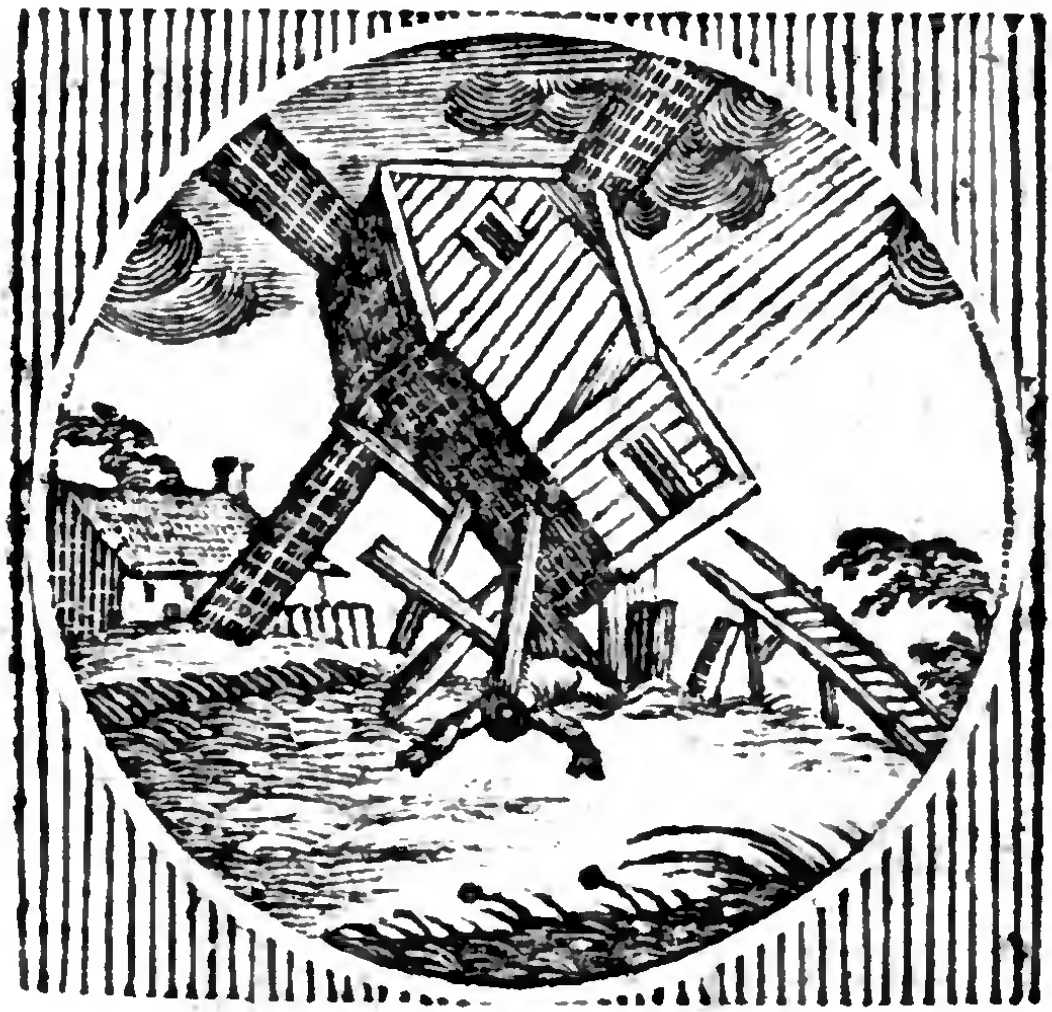
in the Indies, which greatly ſerved to increaſe his pride; for he was as proud as he was greedy. At one particular ſeaſon there had been more calm weather than uſual, at which he repined greatly; and whenever he prayed, (which was not ſo often as he ought) it was always for wind; without regarding what damage it might do at ſea, or how inconvenient it might be to the fruits of the earth, or to the welfare of his neighbours at home. Towards the latter end of September that year the wind roſe high according to his wiſhes; ſo high

it roſe, that ſome mills had been damaged by it; but his own had always been found ſo ſteady, that he did not fear for its ſafety; and as to what happened to others, he was indeed but little concerned on that account.

This man, ſo ſelfiſh and ſo wiſe in his own conceit, was in the height of his joy, when after the gale had continued for three days, and the coaſts around were covered with ſhipwrecks, (a moſt dreadful circumſtance!) he received the afflicting news, that his ſon, who had brought a great quantity

of gold and valuable goods from India, was wrecked on the coaſt:—He juſt escaped with life, much hurt and fatigued, and came to his father poor and almoſt naked, the ſea having ſwallowed up his property.—The miller was very unhappy at this unexpected ſtroke, and repined much.—"But ſtill," ſaid he, "my mill ſhall "ſupport me and my ſon too, and I "ſhall remember to take ſufficient "toll for what I grind."—He went to his mill, praying only that the gale of wind might continue—it increaſed; and to conclude, the mill-houſe, which had

had ſtood ſo long ſafe, was blown down, and this ſelfiſh man periſhed in the ruins. He had his wiſh as to the WEATHER, and that proved his confuſion and deſtruction.



Now, to return to the ſtory, Maſter Frank and his companions, after their diſcourſe with the mowers, went on at a pretty quick pace, but ſtill diverted themſelves with converſation by the way, which made time paſs more merrily. The beauty of the country was ſufficient to furniſh them with many pleaſing fancies, and much innocent recreation. "Look "at yonder Sheep," ſaid George Graceful; "pretty things, how they "nibble the graſs! they feed us "and they cloath us. I have ſeen

"what

" what they call a ſheep-ſhearing,
" many miles off. It is at that time
" they cut the coats from the ſheep's
" backs, to make coats for you and I.
" The country people then feaſt, ſing,
" and dance; and I aſſure you, it is a
" very merry ſeaſon."

" And ſo we, in our turn, give them
" our graſs to eat," cried Billy Briſk.
" —Yes," replied George, " and I
" think ſuch uſeful creatures well de-
" ſerve it."——

Juſt

Juſt at this time, his couſin, whom we mentioned above, met them, and was highly pleaſed to hear they were going to his mother's houſe, for which reaſon, he turned back to ſhew them

the

the way, as it lay over ſome fields. The young folks were glad to accept the favour, and away they went together, over pleaſant grounds, the ſun ſhining above, and the trees all green around them, on ſome of which there hung fruit, which, though not ripe, was ſo plentiful, as to give ſigns of what might be expected at the proper ſeaſon.

"Ah," ſaid Miſs Patty Pleaſant, "we are come too ſoon into the "country for apples, pears, peaches, "and plums; but I hope we ſhall "return when they are in perfection."

" fection."——" They will be " plentiful in London too, at that " time;" ſaid George's Couſin, whoſe name was Martin, " for you " muſt know, that the beſt of all " fruit is ſent up to town; ſo that " you will get it as cheap there as " any where, except your friends give " it you."

This was ſo true, that nobody could diſpute it; yet Maſter Hearty obſerved, " it was pretty at leaſt to " ſee how theſe things grew, which " were not to be found in that ſtate " in the middle of cities."

Thus

Thus diſcourſing, they arrived at the Lady's houſe, who received her viſitors with the greateſt kindneſs and goodnature, and told them, ſhe ſhould be happy to find they would ſpend a day or two in the holidays with her, which was better than roving about, and ſhe would do all in her power to make every thing pleaſant; and ſhe took care to keep her word with them.

She entertained them with nice diſhes, among which puddings and pies were not forgotten. After dinner, they commonly walked abroad till tea-time, and frequently ſpent the hours

hours afterwards till ſupper in reading pleaſant books, or in agreeable talk, in which Mrs. Graceful often took a part, and Martin was always engaged.

In one of theſe amuſing converſations this youth was deſired to ſhew a little piece that he had written; which we ſhall here preſent to our readers for their entertainment.

The ſpring leads on the pleaſant hours,
For ſhame, ye ſleepers, riſe!
See, how the ground is dreſt with flowers,
How bright the ſmiling ſkies!

The

The pretty birds their voices raiſe,
What ſounds can be more ſweet?
In yonder fields the lambkin plays;
There, ſee the milk-maid neat.

See the poor cow, how ſtill ſhe ſtands,
While DOLLY fills the pail,
While roſy Sue with Tom ſhakes hands,
And trips along the vale.

The glorious ſun now melts the dews
That glitter'd on the thorn:
Then, tell me, who would now refuſe
To riſe at early morn?

I knew

I knew, indeed, how THOUGHTLESS ſlept
When he from ſchool was freed;
He ſlept till ſloth upon him crept,
And ſloth produc'd his need.

Poor and deſpis'd, by all forſook,
Who made him here their care;
To foreign lands his way he took,
And ſadly periſh'd there.

But let us early go abroad;
For pleaſure now invites;
Where'er we freely take our road
We meet with freſh delights.

So happy let our moments be,
Nor ſuch engagements ceaſe;
But paſs, from faults and troubles free,
In innocence and peace.

This little piece pleaſed the whole company, as they, indeed, were all uſed to early hours. The deſcription of the ſpring was very agreeable, and the more ſo, as they ſaw the beauties of the ſeaſon all blooming round them.

They did not loſe the opportunity, which was doubtly pleaſing, as Mr.

Mr. Martin conſented to keep them company, and they promiſed themſelves much ſatisfaction from the obſervations they might make, on whatever chance threw in their way, according to their firſt deſign, which they had begun with, as we have already mentioned.

Accordingly, they all went out together one day, and as they advanced farther into the country, found their journey ſtill the pleaſanter.

At two miles diſtance from Mrs. Graceful's, they ſaw a pretty little

girl ſitting under a green hedge cry-
ing: "What can be the matter with
"you, my dear?" ſaid Miſs Patty,
"you ſeem to be very full of ſorrow,
"whilſt you ſee every thing ſo pretty

"and

" and agreeable.—The very hedge " that you ſit under looks gay, and I " wiſh you could."

" Thank you for your good wiſhes, " Miſs," anſwered the little girl, " but indeed I am crying, becauſe I " am turned out of doors, and I ſhall " ſtarve for want of bread, I am ſure " I ſhall."

" Ah!" cried Martin, " it is " too true, that nothing can give " pleaſure, when the heart feels " ſorrow, and I can tell you, the " older you grow, the more you " will find it ſo; though the better

" we all are, the better we are " likely to fare. But it is early " time with this poor child, who is " younger than either of you."— And then ſtepping up to her, he looked in her face, which he had not ſeen before, becauſe ſhe had held down her head.—He then thought he knew her; " I believe," ſaid he, your name is Nancy Careleſs." " It " is ſo, indeed," ſhe replied, crying again—" I think, too, I know ſome- " thing of you; I was as happy as " any little girl in the world, till " my poor Mammy died, and ſo I

" have

" have got a new one, and I never
" could think of her as ſuch, and ſo
" ſhe was always ſnubbing me, and
" I could never bear it, and ſhe was
" always beating me. At laſt I did
" not agree with my new Mam-
" my's Child, and ſo I got my-
" ſelf beaten by her, and when my
" Daddy came home he turned me
" out of doors, and left me in this
" manner."

Martin ſaid, " he was ſorry to hear
" all this, and that he was afraid ſhe
" had ſome way been in fault."—
It was lucky at this time, that a

ſervant came from Mrs. Graceful's with a meſſage to her ſon, on which Martin deſired her to take the poor girl for a little while to his mother's houſe for ſhelter, knowing ſhe would be ſo good-natured as to entertain her till the next day, when they might hear more of the matter.

And ſo ſhe went with Molly, while Martin made ſome obſervations on the matter.

" There is nothing has done more " miſchief," ſaid he, " than the ſilly " and bad way of ſetting children " againſt their Mothers-in-law,

" This

" This makes ſuch children undutiful not only to them, but alſo to their father; and what elſe but miſchief muſt follow from ſuch behaviour? It is a ſad thing indeed to loſe either of our parents by death, as I have found, but that is the way, in ſuch caſes, to make things worſe."—" I know a little boy," ſaid Frank Freelove, " that has a Father-in-law, who treats him as if he was his own child; but then it is, as Mr. Martin ſays, becauſe the boy is dutiful to him. I am ſure I ſhould be

ſo,

" ſo, if I were to have a new mo-
" ther."

As they thus went on talking, they ſaw a large bird, that after ſome time hovering

hovering in the air, came down into a farmer's yard, on which the chickens that were picking about all ran and ſheltered themſelves under the hen's wings, while the cock boldly engaged the enemy that would have deſtroyed them. Juſt at this time the Farmer came out with his gun, ſhot the bird, and gave orders to nail his body up againſt the barn. "How "boldly the cock fought," cried Maſter Briſk.—"How the chickens "ſaved themſelves," cried Patty.—"It was a wicked bird," ſaid Harry Heartwell, "and I ſhould almoſt "think

" think it a pity there were any more " of the kind." Maſter Briſk added, " that it was a pity, to be ſure." " We muſt not ſay ſo," interrupted Frank Freelove, " of any thing that " God has made."—" We ought " not," ſaid Martin, " becauſe, of " all that we are able to find out, " every thing has its uſe, and ſo we " ſhould think of the reſt.—The " ſame bird kills the crows that try " to ſteal the chickens, and as for " them, you have ſeen how they were " guarded, which ſhews that the " young are always ſafeſt when un-

" der

" der their parents' protection. But " the robber will be made a public " example."

The day continued fine, this little party proceeded farther into the country; and, as they went along, obſerved the road partly ſtopped up by a cart, the horſe having fallen down in the ſhafts. The man was endeavouring to raiſe it. " Poor " beaſt," ſaid Frank Freelove, " what a pity this is."—" Poor " beaſt, it is a pity indeed," anſwered the owner. " Tinker has " ſerved me many years, Maſter, " and

" and though you ſee him drawing
" this heavy load, I ſhould be ſorry
" to loſe him, or to have him hurt.
" But what can I do? I muſt em-
" ploy him, in order to get a living

for

" for me and my wife."——And while he ſpoke, he again tried to raiſe the horſe.——Martin, ſeeing his diſtreſs, went up to him, and gave all the little aſſiſtance in his power; at length Tinker got up, to the great happineſs of his maſter, who began to dance for joy. " How " different is this," cried Frank, " from ſome of thoſe fellows that " abuſe the poor dumb creatures, " as I have too often ſeen." Martin obſerved, " that was very cruel," and added, " he believed in general " thoſe men were not the maſters of

" the

" the horſes they uſed ſo ill."——
" Be that how it will," ſaid Frank,
" ſuch behaviour muſt be wicked;
" theſe poor things are made to ſerve
" us, and I remember we are told,
" *That a merciful man is merciful to*
" *his beaſt.*" —— " True," cried
Martin, " and we ſhould never be
" otherwiſe to any thing. I hope
" none of you, my good young
" friends, ever employ yourſelves in
" tormenting flies or other inſects;
" for that would not only be naughty
" in you, but it would give you a
" bad habit of cruelty, ſuch as

" might

" might grow up with you, and be-
" come worſe as your years increaſe."
Billy Briſk ſaid, " he never took
" delight in any ſuch thing; but
" he owned, he did not ſuppoſe it a
" matter worth notice one way or
" other, till he had juſt now heard
" what was to be ſaid upon it."
Martin allowed, " that it was ſome-
" times done for want of thought;"
but added, " that very thoughtleſſneſs
" muſt be a great fault in any
" body." " I have heard my Papa
" tell a ſtory," ſaid Miſs Patty, " of
" a ſchoolfellow of his, that was

" very cruel. He began with little
" inſects, and afterwards took plea-
" ſure in beating dogs, worrying
" cats, and ſo on, though he was
" often puniſhed for it. He grew
" worſe, as he grew older, as Mr.
" Martin has ſaid; and was a mere
" tyrant both to his beaſts and to his
" ſervants. At laſt his cruelty
" cauſed his death; for while he
" was one day moſt unmercifully
" beating and laſhing a fine horſe,
" that he uſed to ride, the creature
" ſuddenly turned, and gave him a
kick in the ſtomach, of which he

" never

" never recovered, and my Papa ſaw
" him carried to his grave in leſs than
" a week afterwards."

By this time the young folks begun to be hungry, and thought of re-

turning to dinner, but Martin told them, "he would ſoon bring them to "a place where they ſhould have "ſomething to ſatisfy their ſtomachs, "if they would be contented with "whatever they chanced to meet "with in the country faſhion."

They were all well enough pleaſed with this, and accordingly went on, till they ſaw a little Farm-houſe, to which Mr. Martin went before, taking his Couſin in his hand, and left them to wait a little: but George ſoon came back, and brought them an invitation to walk in.

Here

Here they found a very agreeable elderly woman making dinner ready. "This is Dame Gentle," said George, "an old friend of my Aunt's, "and one who will make us all "welcome." "That I will," cries the good woman, "as well as I "am able. I hear you are all good "young gentlefolks, and I shall be "glad of a little of your company. "I had a Nephew, that lived "with me a great while when he "was a boy; but now he is a "man grown, and is gone from "me. Indeed he was rather what

" is called unlucky, as I believe " Maſter George knows; but hap- " pily he grew better, or elſe I feared " he would not have done himſelf " much ſervice."

" Yes," ſaid Maſter Graceful, " I " remember young Dick very well, " and many of his unlucky tricks, " for ſome of which he ſuffered, " before he left them off. In par- " ticular, he uſed to take a fancy of " trying to fright people, though I " did not ſee but he was as eaſy to be " frightened as other people. One " night having got a dark lanthorn,

" he

" he covered his face with a white
" handkerchief, and crouching down
" behind a wall, hid himſelf till
" a neighbour's ſervant came by,
" whom he thought to terrify by
" jumping out ſuddenly, and turning
" the lanthorn, ſo that the light flaſhed
" directly on her face. The girl
" was ſtartled a little at firſt; but
" as ſhe was not fearful, ſhe directly
" went up to Dick, who ran away
" as faſt as his legs could carry him;
" but finding ſhe ſtill followed, he
" quickly jumped over a low paling
" into a garden ground cloſe to the

" road ſide. But he could not
" have done much worſe; for there
" chanced to be a great dog there,
" that was always let looſe at night.
" This creature flew on Dick, bit
" him

" him ſeverely by the leg, and very
" likely would have torn him in
" pieces, but that he ſcreamed ſo
" loud as to bring ſome people from
" the houſe to help him. So he was
ſaved from further hurt, but he lay
" ill a long while, and I believe he
" never forgot it."

" That was one of his laſt tricks,"
ſaid the good woman, " and I think
" it was well it was no worſe. They
" tell us, that experience is not good
" till it is bought; but I fancy peo-
" ple ſometimes buy it too dear.
" This was likely to have been poor

" Dick's

" Dick's caſe; but afterwards he " knew better; and I hear he does " very well in London."

Goody Gentle having prepared dinner, Martin and the young folks ſat down to it with an appetite they had got by walking. What ſhe gave them was good food, and luckily ſhe had a pudding in the pot, which was a very agreeable addition; beſides, had not there been ſuch a good meal, they would have proved " hun- " ger the beſt ſauce," which is a very true proverb.

They

They ſtayed here about an hour after dinner, and then having rambled about a little in the fields, were about to return, when George told them that if they would turn a little on one ſide, he knew a place where there were cows kept, and where ſyllabubs were made; at the ſame time Martin produced ſome cakes that he had brought from home; and thus they fared well, and were very merry. "This is happy, in-"deed," cries Billy Briſk. "How "pleaſantly we ſpend our time," ſaid Harry Hearty. Maſter Free-

love

love added, "pleaſantly indeed; and "beſides happy, becauſe innocently, "which could never be the caſe if "any of us were playing truant, or "had come abroad without the con-"ſent of our parents," which was a very juſt obſervation.

They called again on Dame Gentle, to take leave of her, and the party ſet out in earneſt on their return to Mr. Freelove's, for they had no occaſion to call at Mrs. Graceful's, as ſhe met them in the way, and preſented them with ſeveral tokens of her regard, among which I re-

member

member were ſome of the little books lately publiſhed at HARRIS's, the Corner of St. Paul's Church-yard; ſuch as

KEEPER's TRAVELS IN SEARCH OF HIS MASTER,
The ADVENTURES of a CAT,
EDWIN, KING of NORTHUMBERLAND,
PROFITABLE AMUSEMENTS.
The GUARDIAN ANGEL,
MENTORIAL TALES.

And here Martin left them.

As they were thus going on, Billy Briſk took notice of ſome flowers, that Miſs Patty had plucked in

Mr.

Mr. Freelove's garden, and placed in her boſom, which by this time were fading and dying. "What a pity "it is," ſaid he, "that ſuch pretty "things ſhould droop and die away

"in

" in this manner." " It is no " more," anſwered Maſter Freelove, " than muſt be the fate of every " thing, as our books properly tell " us; nothing elſe could be ex- " pected."

" I think," replied Patty, " I have " ſome verſes in my pocket-book " to this purpoſe, and as we mean to " entertain one another, if you will " ſit down, I will give the paper to " Maſter Freelove to read to you, " as I really think he is the beſt reader " in this company, though I hope I do " not offend any body."

So

So they ſat down, and Miſs Pleaſant felt for her pocket book, but ſhe could not find it. This was diſagreeable; ſhe reddened a little, and declared, "beſide ſome little ſecrets "it contained, ſhe would not have "loſt the book on any account, as "it was the gift of her Grandmama, "with a charge to keep it for her "ſake."

Frank obſerved, "he ſhould be very ſorry if it were loſt," and, at the ſame time ſaid, he hoped, "if any "in the company could give tidings "of it, they would do ſo directly."—

On

On this Billy Briſk ſmiling, all began to ſuſpect him; and on preſſing him cloſely, he owned, that ſeeing the young lady drop the pocket-book, he had picked it up, but without an intent to open it, much leſs a deſign to keep it.

He then gave it to Miſs Patty, who thanked him, and drawing out the paper ſhe had mentioned, read the following verſes.

ow gay the blooming flowers appear,
When lovely Spring adorns the year;
How fair the op'ning proſpect ſhews,
When Summer bright unfolds the roſe!

O pleaſing flow'rs that charm our eyes,
From which ſuch ſweet perfumes ariſe,
Could they endure each cuttiag blaſt,
And could ſuch ſweetneſs ever laſt!

But nipping ſeaſons, well we know,
Muſt come, and winter cloath'd with
ſnow;
No more the grove or hedge be green,
Nor beauteous proſpects ſhall be ſeen.

Then

Then muſt theſe flowrets droop, decay'd,
Which ev'n a Summer's day can fade;
And early youth that blooms to day,
In time's ſwift courſe muſt paſs away.

So thoſe, of preſent joys too vain,
Shall find thoſe joys cannot remain;
The roſe muſt die, though now in prime,
And youth and beauty yield to time.

They had not got far from Mrs. Graceful's, on their way home, before they were overtaken by Maſter Petulant, a very ſelf-willed young

gentleman, who, through the neglect of a kinſman that had the care of his education, was brought up ſo as to have too much of his own way at home, for which reaſon he expected the ſame abroad, though he often found himſelf diſappointed.

The young people were not very fond of his company, becauſe they pretty well knew his rude behaviour; but from good manners they did not know how to refuſe walking with him, as he ſaid he was going the ſame way, and offered to join them. However he preſently began to ſhew his

his tricks: he contradicted whatever was ſaid, was frequently ſkipping on, or loitering behind, had not patience to keep in the common road, but was only eaſy when he was ſhewing his ridiculous antics, and beſides ſeemed to be diſpleaſed there was not any body in company that appeared at all entertained with them. Thus he ſeemed as if he tried all in his power to make himſelf diſagreeable.

Some poultry happening to be in the road, he took it into his head to drive them about, and

throw ſtones at them, and when they ran into a field to get away from him, he climbed over a gate, to follow them; but he had no ſooner entered the field than a Goat,

that

that he had chanced to hit with a ſtone ran at him and knocked him down twice. Maſter Petulant, who never was very courageous, called out for help, on which Frank came to the gate, and ſeeing his diſtreſs, went over into the field, followed by Harry Hearty; and each of the young gentlemen having a ſtick plucked from the hedge, they preſently drove back the horned enemy and delivered him from his trouble. However, he was bruiſed a little, and dirtied much, which made him ſo much aſhamed of himſelf, that

he left the company without taking leave, and all were heartily pleaſed to get rid of him.

" I have known Maſter Petulant " near two years," ſaid Harry Hearty, " and I think he has gene- " rally behaved in the ſame man- " ner; though ſome people ſaid " he would know better when he " grew older, as Dame Gentle " told us, was the caſe with her " kinſman; I am afraid it never " will be ſo with him, as he has " always been too obſtinate to take " advice for his good, though eaſy

" enough

" enough to be led into miſchief;
" beſides which, he never took warn-
" ing by any thing amiſs that his
" tricks brought upon him."

" A bad character indeed," cried Frank; " the beſt we can do is to
" take warning for our part, not to
" follow ſuch an example."

" For thus experience bids us learn
" From what we ſee or find,
" To take the good that we diſcern,
" And leave the bad behind.

" With

" With pity we thoſe faults ſhould ſee
" Which moſt we ought to ſhun,
" And yet be cautious too, leſt we
" By them ſhould be undone.

" 'Tis by degrees to ill we fall,
" And ſlowly thoſe begin,
" With whom great faults ſucceed to ſmall,
" Few ruſh at once to ſin.

" The child with ſhyneſs views the tide,
" Plays on the banks around,
" Yet in the ſtream too frequent ey'd,
" Oft falls, is loſt, and drown'd.

" Jeſt

" Jeſt not with crimes, offences fear,
" From wild companions fly;
" Be wiſe, be good, you'll proſper here,
" And riſe to bliſs on high."

It was very pleaſing to the reſt of the young folks to hear Maſter Freelove readily and correctly repeat thoſe lines without book, which he told them he had got by heart a great while before, as he was fond of reading, and had a good memory.

[Here, by the bye, I would wiſh to obſerve, that though every body

is

is not equally happy in this bleſſing, yet I am pretty ſure it will be found, that moſt of thoſe who complain of a bad memory as to learning, have themſelves chiefly to blame, for applying their minds to trifles; whilſt it is as true that the beſt memory will be much hurt for want of frequently and properly exerciſing it.]

But none of our travellers forgot that they were going homewards, and becauſe they remembered it, began to mend their pace, though they were ſtill in good time; but

but this ſhewed their attention to what they ought to conſider; a circumſtance which we mention to their honour.

As they were thus going on, Maſter Briſk being foremoſt, as he generally was, happened to meet a poor man begging charity on the road: as he ſeemed not at all in years, this young gentleman treated him with ſcorn, bade him go about his buſineſs, and added, "My "Papa would *make* you do ſo if "he was here; you are one of "thoſe whom he calls ſturdy beg-

"gars,

" gars, who ought to be whipped;
" ſo you ought," " It would
" much better become you, Maſter,
" to ſay, I ought to be *relieved*;
" I am *no* ſturdy beggar," anſwered

the

the man, "but a fellow-creature "in diſtreſs.—"Fellow-creature," cried the other, "that is true, "but then you are an idle and "ſaucy fellow, and ought to be "uſed as ſuch; ſo away with you." The poor man replied, "If the "young gentleman did not chuſe "to give me any thing, there was "no cauſe to inſult me."—"What! "inſult you!" cried Maſter Briſk ſcornfully, and was proceeding to ſay more, when the reſt of the company came up, and with that eagerneſs natural to ſuch young folks, inquired,

inquired, what was the matter? Their lively companion partly informed them, when the beggar, ſo much deſpiſed, deſired the favour to be heard in his turn.

" I will not charge this good little " Maſter with telling more than " the truth," ſaid he; " but give " me leave to ſay, that he was too " rough with me, as well as too " haſty. Once I thought as little " of getting my bread in this man- " ner, as he may do; without of- " fence to him I ſpeak it. About " three years ago I was turned out

" of

" of a farm which I had in the
" North of England, and which had
" been held by our family from the
" time of my great grandfather;
" but it happened for me, that a
" new lord of the manor came into
" the poſſeſſion of the eſtate on
" which my farm was ſituate: this
" young man left all to his ſteward,
" who made it his chief buſineſs to
" diſtreſs the tenants. He meant
" to be hard on me for my rent,
" but finding that could not hurt
" me, and obſerving that I was in

 " a thriving

" a thriving way, he got his lord's
" leave from time to time to raiſe
" that rent, till I thought I ſhould
" not be able to pay it; and for
" that reaſon I left the place, in
" hopes to get a cheaper; but I
" was diſappointed in that, becauſe
" my former lord and ſome other
" great people had got all the low-
" rented farms into their own poſ-
" ſeſſion, and ſcarcely ever let them
" but all together. I do not know,"
adds he, as he recollected himſelf,
" whether you entirely underſtand
" me;

" me; but two things I can tell you
" plainly, young gentlemen; one is,
" which you will know better when
" you are older, that *little* farms make
" poultry, pigs, better, &c. cheap;
" and that the poor are turned out
" in order to make room for richer
" people, who can pay *better*, though
" not *more honeſtly*.——However, to
" make the ſtory as ſhort as poſſible,
" being thus turned out, and alone,
" as my wife was dead, having no
" children, I came into this part of
" the country, being reſolved to get

" my living by my labour; and this
" I did for a great while; but at
" laſt Heaven afflicted me with ſuch
" a pain in my limbs, particularly in
" my arms, that I have not been
" able to do any work, and am now
" far diſtant from home, and in a
" ſtarving condition, till I can get
" ſome way provided for, or ſent back
" again."

The little company having heard this ſtory, pitied him that told it, and began to blame Maſter Briſk; Frank, in particular, told him he had

had behaved ſo cruelly, that he ought to ſhake hands with the perſon offended, and aſk his pardon. Billy, who was really good-natured in the main, was ready enough to ſhake hands; but to beg pardon, and that to a perſon who aſked charity, went rather againſt him; and he owned it did ſo. But Frank obſerved to him, that there could be no ſhame in this, and eſpecially as he was not forced to do it. "The ſhame," ſaid he, "vere juſtly lies in giving "an offence; but there is *none* in

" owning it. We may be pretty
" ſure the honeſt man will not de-
" ſire, or let you fall on your knees;
" but you certainly ſhould acknow-
" ledge your fault, and deſire it may
" be excuſed."

This was altogether ſo reaſonable, that the young gentleman complied; when the poor man obſerving that he was ready to humble himſelf, prevented him as much as poſſible, and even ſaved him the trouble of ſaying half the words which he intended; and then ſhook hands with

him

him moſt cordially: in all which my young readers may take notice, he did not act like a ſaucy beggar or an impoſtor. Indeed the ſtory he related was entirely true; and Maſter Briſk was ſo well pleaſed with him, that he promiſed to make full amends for his fault; inſtead of ſpeaking to his father to threaten to hurt him, to repreſent the caſe ſo, that by his intereſt ſome proviſion might be made for this diſtreſſed perſon, or that he might be ſent to his own part of the country: and

the young gentleman in due time kept his word in this particular.

After they had parted from this man, Miſs Patty obſerving what a ſad thing it was that ſome who had lived in plenty ſhould come to want bread; Maſter Freelove obſerved, that as he had heard and read, theſe things happened ſometimes to great perſons, and even to princes; and he related the following ſtory to that purpoſe:

"There was a certain Tartarian "prince, who having made war on

"a neigh-

" a neighbour, had the misfortune
" to be taken priſoner, and was uſed
" with ſeverity. As the battle be-
" gan before the hour of dinner, the
" captive Prince, not having eaten
" any thing, deſired he might have
" ſome food. On this a piece of
" meat was brought him, which was
" no ſooner dreſt, than a dog ran
" away with it. The poor Prince
" ran after the beaſt, and having
" took it from him with difficulty,
" burſt into laughter: ſome of thoſe
" that were near him being much
" ſurpriſed,

" ſurpriſed, aſked the reaſon of " this extraordinary behaviour: to " whom he replied,—It was but " this morning I was told that a " dozen waggons were too few to " carry my neceſſary proviſion, and " behold, to-night, a dog has run " away with all my proviſion in his " mouth."

Thus diſcourſing, they drew near Mr. Freelove's as the ſun was ſetting; and as the clouds appeared moſt beautiful, they were ſtopping awhile to view them, when they met that gentleman,

gentleman, who had been taking his evening's walk according to his uſual cuſtom.

He was at firſt a little diſpoſed to find fault with them for loitering, as the evening came on apace; but being told the cauſe, he forbore to blame them: and when Maſter Briſk ſeemed to lament the ſun's leaving them, obſerved that the night was as neceſſary for reſt, as the day for labour, learning, exerciſe, or diverſion: he told him beſides, that when the ſun ſet in one place, he roſe in another;

another; which muſt alſo be as neceſſary, in order that every body in different countries might have a proper ſhare of the bleſſing of daylight.

Juſt as Mr. Freelove had finiſhed theſe obſervations, they entered his houſe, where his dog met him at the door, and fawned on him and Frank. This faithful creature always welcomed his Maſter and his young Maſter home in this manner, and by his ſkipping and wagging his tail, ſhewed in his dumb way of expreſſion,

expreſſion, that he was pleaſed with the reſt of the company.

The return of the young folks had been wiſhed for, becauſe Mr. Freelove had reſolved to give them a light ſupper, which was ready prepared againſt their return, as that gentleman wiſhed to have a little converſation with them before they ſeparated, and returned to their own homes. It was a pleaſing ſight to Mr. Freelove to ſee how heartily the little folks partook of the fare he had provided for them, and that every mouth

was

was in action, while every tongue was silent.

After they had made pretty free with the pies and tarts, (for Mr. Free-

love

love hath provided nothing but what was of light digeſtion) and when their mouths began to be a little weary of ſo much exerciſe, their tongues then began to come into uſe. "Bleſs me," ſaid Maſter Graceful, "what a pleaſ-
"ing entertainment this has been!
"What a fine thing it is to have vic-
"tuals to eat when we are hungry,
"and what a ſad thing it muſt be
"to be hungry, and have nothing to
"eat!"

"I am glad to hear you make that remark, Maſter Graceful," ſaid Mr. Freelove, "becauſe many people,

"while

" while they themſelves are hungry,
" feel for the poor and neceſſitous;
" but, as ſoon as their own appetites
" are gratified, they think no more
" of the wants of others. You, how-
" ever, generouſly think of the wants
" of others, not only before but alſo
" after your own are ſatisfied."

" This puts me in mind," ſaid Miſs Pleaſant, " of a ſtory told of lady
" Selfiſh. She was one of thoſe ladies
" who uſed to go to church more
" through a wiſh of ſeeing the faſhions
" than from a motive of devotion.
" She one Sunday attended divine

" ſervice

" ſervice when the weather was ſe-
" verely cold, and in coming home in
" her coach, and from thence ſlipping
" into her houſe, ſhe found herſelf
" almoſt benumbed. It ſo happened,
" that two or three beggars ſurround-
" ed her houſe, ſhivering with cold,
" and imploring her aſſiſtance. No
" ſooner had ſhe entered her houſe,
" than ſhe called for the cook-maid,
" and aſked what there was in the
" larder that could comfort thoſe poor
" beggars at the door. The maid
" went down to examine, and, by the
" time of her return, her ladyſhip was

" got tolerably warm, and would hear
" nothing more about the beggars at
" the door.

" My father has often told me," ſaid Maſter Hearty, " that to have a
" feeling for our fellow-creatures is
" a mark of gratitude to our Maker,
" of whom the beſt of us have many things to aſk."

Mr. Freelove obſerved, that they had then about an hour to ſpare before the time of their departure, and ſhould be glad to have that hour ſpent in uſeful converſation. He therefore propoſed, that each of the young folks

ſhould

ſhould relate ſome ſtory they remembered, or, which would be more agreeable to him, would give an account of any action of their lives, which they particularly remembered with pleaſure, as it would give him an opportunity to tell them of their errors, if guilty of any; or what would be more pleaſing to him, to have occaſion to applaud and commend their diſcretion, prudence, or generoſity.

As Mr. Freelove had propoſed that the young company ſhould each repeat ſomething they had read, or, what occured to their minds pleaſing

to their remembrance within the limits of their own concerns, his ſon Frank thought it became him to ſpeak firſt, and therefore without any ceremony, thus proceeded:

"You know, my dear Papa, that "I was always fond of kite-making, "and you have frequently given me "the greateſt pleaſure on finding "my endeavours met with your "approbation. This encouraged me "in the courſe of my laſt holi-"days, to endeavour to make the "moſt capital kite I was capable "of. I informed you, Sir, of my

"intention

" intention, and you was ſo oblig-
ing as to lend me your ma-
" thematical compaſſes, in order
" to enable me to draw my ſtars
" in a proper manner. My dear
" ſiſter was alſo ſo kind as to
" lend me her box of water-colours,
" in order that I might make it
" the moſt brilliant kite that ever
" found its way into the air. On
" my complaining, that I wanted a
" pair of glaſs eyes to make it com-
" plete, my grandmother very gra-
" ciouſly gave me a pair of her old

" ſpectacles for that purpoſe. What
" could be expected from ſuch united
" aſſiſtances, but that my kite would
" be one of the firſt order. I took
" all the pains I was maſter of,
" in properly adjuſting the ſkeleton
" part of it; I mean, the proper
" length of the bender and ſtraiter,
" and the diſpoſition of the pack-
" threads neceſſary to keep it in its
" due form. I covered it with poſt
" paper, then put in the glaſs eyes,
" and properly placed my ſtars there-
" on. When I had ſo done, and
" all were dry, I tried how it would

" balance,

" balance, and found that no gold
" ſcales could be more correct. I then
" invited all my little friends to be
" preſent at the trial of my kite,
" having previouſly provided myſelf
" with a pound of fine twine. The
" day was in my favour, and a gentle
" breeze came wafting from the weſt.
" I fixed my cord to the ſtring of the
" ſtraiter, and I no ſooner let it out
" of my hand, than

" Aloft it mounted to the ſky,
" And dazzled my purſuing eye."

" I very well remember," interrupted Miſs Pleaſant, " what a beautiful " kite it was. It remained in the air as " void of motion, as I have ſeen birds, " when they have been hovering on " the wing, and ſeeking out for prey." " Certainly," ſaid Maſter Briſk, " a " better kite never flew: I well re- " member it."—" I would give all " the tops and marbles I am worth," ſaid Harry Hearty, " could I make " ſuch a kite "

Mr Freelove here interpoſed, and told his amiable viſitors, that if they interrupted each other in the thread

of

of their diſcourſe, it would be impoſſible to get through the buſineſs before day-light the next morning: he therefore begged that no one might be interrupted while ſpeaking. After this, not ſo much as a whiſper was uttered, and you might have even heard a mouſe creep along the floor.

After this little digreſſion, Maſter Freelove purſued his narrative. "I "wiſh," ſaid he, "the fortune of my "kite had been equal to the pains I "took with it, but it proved other-"wiſe. You very well know, Sir,

"Billy

" Billy Headſtrong: he came up to
" me, while I and my companions were
" enjoying the pleaſure of ſeeing how
" well my kite performed; he ſaid
" it was indeed a pretty kite, and
" flew moſt ſweetly; he put his
" hand in his pocket, and, as one of
" my companions has ſince told me,
" drew out a ſmall knife, which he
" concealed in the palm of his hand;
" he then deſired to feel how it
" tugged, and while he was ſo doing,
" eaſily found means to cut the ſtring.
" In a moment, away went my kite
" and all my twine, which I have

" never

" never heard of nor ſeen ſince. I
" could have cried moſt heartily, but
" I thought that would have been
" *unmanly*; but I ſhould moſt certainly,
" in the heat of my anger, have endea-
" voured to thraſh him moſt heartily,
" had I then known the ungenerous
" trick he had played me. However,
" away he ran, crying out, Alas,
" poor kite! poor kite!

" I did not ſee Billy Headſtrong
" till a long time after I had been
" informed of the real cauſe of the
" loſs of my kite. I was walking
" in a neighbouring field, and heard

" a voice

" a voice in diſtreſs, crying out for
" aſſiſtance. I haſtened to the ſpot
" as faſt as I could, and found a
" boy almoſt up to his chin in a
" muddy ditch, where he muſt ſoon
" have been ſuffocated, had I not
" gone to his relief. To my aſto-
" niſhment, I found it to be this
" wicked boy who had cut the ſtring
" of my kite. He had been up in a
" tree that grew in the hedge, after
" a bird's neſt, when the bough on
" which he ſtood broke, and down
" they both came together. He fell
" into the ditch, and the bough, at

ſome

" ſome diſtance from him, into the
" field.

" My former reſentment was loſt
" in the preſent feelings of my huma-
" nity. I threw the bough acroſs
" the ditch, and found ſome other
" means to aſſiſt him, ſo that I got
" him ſafe out, though not without
" mudding myſelf much. He no
" ſooner found himſelf ſafe on ſolid
" ground, than he inſtantly ran home,
" without ſo much as ſtopping to thank
" me."

Mr. Freelove much applauded the conduct of his ſon, and commended

his

his preferring the ſafety of his enemy to the idea of mean revenge. If the one had the pleaſure in boaſting, that he had done an unmerited injury, how cutting muſt his feelings afterwards be, when he came to reflect, that he owed his life to that very perſon, to whom he had unjuſtly given ſo much cauſe of uneaſineſs.

Harry Hearty was now called upon for his tale, which he immediately complied with. "My "father," ſaid he, "who, you all "know,

"know, is a colonel in the army,
"always endeavoured to perſuade me
"not to be afraid of any thing,
"but particularly of the ridiculous
"notions of ghoſts and apparitions.
"I one time accompanied my father
"to the houſe of a relation, who
"lived in Hertfordſhire. On our
"arrival there, we found the family
"all in confuſion, on account of a
"room that was ſaid to be haunted,
"ſo that no one dared to ſleep in it.
"My father endeavoured to reaſon
"the matter with them, and to

"convince

" convince them that no ſuch things
" exiſted as ghoſts or apparitions;
" but it was all to no purpoſe.
" At laſt, my father ſaid to me,
" What think you of this ghoſt,
" Harry? Shall you and I lie in
" that room to-night, and thereby
" convince your uncle of the wrong
" notions he has entertained? I readi-
" ly conſented, and would not liſten
" to the admonitions of thoſe, who
" endeavoured to perſuade me from
" it. The bed was accordingly well
" aired, as well as the ſheets, and a
" claw-

"claw-table was placed in the room,
"with a baſon, ſome water in a
"bottle, and a napkin put there-
"on.

"On our retiring to the haunted
"chamber, we had as many good
"wiſhes and prayers beſtowed on
"us for our ſafety, as if we had
"been actually going to attack ſome
"powerful and redoubtable enemy.
"On entering our chamber, we
"found there was no lock upon the
"door; but that was a matter of
"no conſequence to us, as my father

" very jocoſely obſerved, apparitions
" can as eaſily get through a key-hole
" as in at the door.

" My father no ſooner got into
" bed, then he fell faſt aſleep; as
" for myſelf, I muſt confeſs that
" the idea of the expected apparition
" ran ſo much in my head, that I
" could not cloſe my eyes, and
" even the whiſtling of the winds
" on the outſide of the houſe made
" me every moment expect they
" would bring the apparition. I re-
" mained in this ſtate of uncertainty

" till

" till near half an hour after twelve
" o'clock, when I diſtinctly heard
" the chamber-door open and ſhut
" again, and as plainly heard the
" footſteps of ſome being. I jogged
" my father, in order to wake him;
" for by this time, I believe, my
" hair ſtood upright on my head. At
" that inſtant the table was overſet,
" and down went the baſon and bot-
" tle of water, which immediately
" awaked my father, and frightened
" me almoſt out of my wits.

" What is the matter, Harry?" ſaid my father, 'What, is the ghoſt

" come?'—" I was ſo terrified, that I
" was unable to utter a word. 'Well,'
" ſaid my Papa, 'we will ſoon ſee
" what this ghoſt is made of.'—
" So ſaying, he inſtantly procured a
" light, by the aſſiſtance of a phoſ-
" phorous match, which is ſo con-
" trived, that it inſtantly catches fire
" the moment it is expoſed to the
" air.

" The light no ſooner appeared,
" than my father laughed heartily,
" and my fears were immediately
" diſpelled. This formidable appa-
" rition was nothing more nor leſs

" than

" than the quiet and peaceable houſe-
" dog, Jowler, who my father ſup-
" poſed had choſen to take up his
" nightly reſidence in that room,
" from which there was no lock to
" exclude him. My father jumped
" out of bed, put one of his garters
" round his neck, and tied him to
" the bed-poſt, when we all went
" to ſleep without any interrup-
" tion.

" Very early in the morning, my
" uncle came into the room to in-
" quire how we had paſſed the night,

" when my father ſaid to him, point-
" ing to Jowler, there lies the in-
" nocent ghoſt, which has given ſo
" much anxiety and uneaſineſs in
" your family.—My uncle was
" aſhamed of having given way to
" ſuch childiſh apprehenſions, and
" all the ſervants were confuſed at
" their own ſimplicity and folly.—
" However, my father was ſo well
" pleaſed with this adventure, that
" he had the following picture paint-
" ed."

Mr.

Mr. Freelove thanked Harry Hearty for the candid and modeſt manner in which he had told his tale; becauſe he had, in the courſe of his

narrative, not made a parade of his bravery and courage, but had confeſſed that fear and timidity, ſo natural to young people of his age:—Mr. Freelove intreated his amiable viſitors to give no credit to the ſtories of thoſe weak people, who fill children's heads with groundleſs fears and apprehenſions. He adviſed them all, whenever they fancied they ſaw any thing at a diſtance, which appeared to them ſupernatural, to walk directly up to it boldly, when they would be ſure of meeting with nothing but what the courſe of nature produced.

produced.—Billy Briſk was now called up for trial.

" Tommy Heedleſs," ſaid Billy Briſk, " was one of my moſt intimate playmates, and I was always happy whenever I could get him to play with me, either with our tops, dumps, or marbles; and one thing, which made me the more fond of him was, that he never attempted to cheat me, but ſeemed equally contented whether he won or loſt. He was fond of reading, and would never quit his book till he had learned his taſk. Such

" good

" good qualities as theſe could not
" avoid getting him the eſteem of
" every honeſt little fellow.

" I have often heard my father ſay,
" that the wiſeſt of us have our
" failings, and that we ſhould not
" attempt to expoſe the errors of
" our friends, till we are ſure we
" have none of our own, and of this
" no man can be certain. If Tommy
" Heedleſs had any fault, it was
" that of his being too fond of a game
" we call *Follow the Leader*. As he
" was always the leader, he would
" ſometimes conduct his followers, in

" the

" the winter, over wide and deep
" ponds that were but thinly frozen
" over, and when the ice bent under
" his feet every ſtep he went. His
" glory was to perform thoſe dange-
" rous exploits, which no one elſe
" would venture to attempt. How-
" ever, he one time narrowly eſcaped
" with his life, by the ice breaking
" under him; had it not been for the
" timely aſſiſtance of a labouring man
" who happened to be near, he muſt
" have been drowned.

" One day, he was leading his
" followers along a thin piece of

" railing

" railing before a gentleman's houſe,
" when he had the misfortune to
" ſlip down, and break his leg in a
" moſt terrible manner. Though
" this confined him at home for
" more than three months, neither
" the confinement nor the pain could
" make him relinquiſh theſe dan-
" gerous kinds of amuſements; nor
" could he be perſuaded to pay any
" attention to the wiſe admonitions
" of his parents and friends. I ſe-
" veral times exerted all my power
" of argument to make him ſenſible
" of the dangers he ran, but all to

" no

" no purpoſe. At laſt, in one of
" theſe unthinking moments ſo com-
" mon to him, he challenged his
" followers to jump over a wide and
" deep well. He attempted to lead
" the way; but, his feet ſtumbling,
" he only went half over, fell to the
" bottom of the well, and there ex-
" pired before any aſſiſtance could
" be brought him."

Mr. Freelove obſerved, that he hoped this would be a warning to all little boys not to engage in dangerous ſports and paſtimes. Children are too apt to neglect the advice of their

parents

parents and friends, and thereby frequently run into fatal errors. What a terrible thing is the loſs of an eye, a leg, or an arm! And yet, how frequently are theſe loſt in the beginning of life, which they lament to the end of it. "But I hope," added Mr. Freelove, "there are no chil-
"dren here preſent, but ſuch as are
"dutiful to their parents, attentive
"to the admonitions of their friends,
"and harmleſs in their ſports and
"paſtimes."

It was now Miſs Pleaſant's turn to tell her tale; but as the evening

was

was advancing, and Mr. Freelove wiſhed his little gueſts to get home before it were dark, they deferred the young lady's tale to another opportunity. They parted quite pleaſed with each other, and well ſatisfied with THE ADVENTURES OF THE DAY.

It may be neceſſary to inform our readers, that Nancy Careleſs, who had indeed turned herſelf out of doors, was reconciled to her parents (after a proper ſubmiſſion) by the means of Mrs. Graceful.—As to the reſt of the little company concerned

cerned in the adventures above related, they all continued to behave well to their relations, and as they grew up did well in life, which is the ſure reward of goodneſs and prudence; and in particular Maſter Frank Freelove became a great and reſpectable gentleman, and Maſter George Graceful, taking to buſineſs, roſe to be a wealthy merchant in the city.

FINIS.

Printed by J. Crowder and E. Hemſted, Warwick-Square.

THIS,

AND EVERY USEFUL

AND

ENTERTAINING PUBLICATION

FOR

YOUNG MINDS,

&

PRINTED FOR

J. HARRIS,

MAY BE HAD

AT

THE PRINCIPAL BOOKSELLERS

AND

TOY-WAREHOUSES

IN THE

WORLD.